

16th June 2

My Ambition Kinlock is to live under a Republican Government, — I hate the name of King — but this is returning your opinion for opinion, now let us examine the Reasons upon which Sentiments thus diametrically opposite, are founded — In a Democracy say you a Man is condemn'd to a hateful Mediocrity, and the Desire of excelling shocks the Spirit of the Constitution — to be confounded among Butchers &c is dreadful to a Man of Education and Feeling — If you mean by Mediocrity, the Government of a Man's Passions, the continual sacrifice of private Interest to public Good, from which kind of Conduct, a Happiness which Riches cannot give, results to the Individual, and Strength and Grandeur are ensur'd to the State, I agree with you that it is required in the Government to which I give the preference, and am persuaded that no Man who is govern'd by his Reason will object to such Mediocrity — if you mean — as seems more probable from what follows in the sentence, that Ambition is clog'd by the Government, and a Man cannot make a Figure by exerting laudable Talents — that I must beg leave totally to deny — under a Republican Government there is the fullest Scope for Ambition directed in it's proper Channel, in the only Channel in which it ought to be allowed, I mean for the Advancement of Public Good — need I desire you for proof to turn to the Histories of Ancient Republics — no — your Memory will present to you Instances enough of Men vying with each other in the glorious Service of their Country and receiving distinguished Marks of Approbation from her — Does this noble Emulation, or it's consequent pure Rewards, shock the Spirit of Democracy — no — but the Ambition of acquiring greater Riches than the rest of ones fellow Citizens, the establishing that odious Inequality of Fortunes, source of luxury and Wretchedness in Society — or that of usurping more power than the Laws allow, such pernicious Ambition shocks the equitable Spirit of a Republic and the Selfish Enemy to his Country, in whose conduct it appears, must fall under the wholesome Rigours of the Law —

To be

confounded with Tradesman, and mean Mechanics, you add, would
give pain to Men of Education and feeling - I know not how
a Man of Education and Talent would be lost undistinguished in an
ignorant Herd, unless by his own neglect - for he has it in his
power to do his Country more eminent and essential Service, and
thereby entitle himself to more signal Rewards - these Rewards
I grant you are not calculated to enrich the Individual and
introduce all the odious and destructive consequences of Riches
but they are fully satisfactory to a Virtuous Mind - surely
no virtuous philosophic Mind will take offence that the useful
industrious part of the Community, should have their persons and
properties equally protected with those of the most enlightened Men -
nor think it unreasonable, that they should choose ~~Men~~ whom
they judge worthy of the important Trust of governing -

I will not repeat here the Maxims respecting Government,
which have been established by a Sidney, a Locke, a Rousseau,
and which strike Union with ~~every sound~~ the sen-
timents of every manly Breast - but beg you to read them,
persuading myself that you will then be a convert to the
Cause of Humanity, and no longer an Advocate for Kings.

"But in a Monarchy every generous principle
of the mind is developed, honour instils a Warmth,
Ambition & the Hand of a King.

In Monarchy a foolish or knavish King whichever chance
has happen'd to place upon the Throne, for very seldom
is it possible from the nature of their Education and other
circumstances that a wise or a virtuous King can at then
is surrounded by designing, servile Flatterers, the Business
of whom, it is, to make the foolish Monarch believe and
act as will best suit their purposes - and those of their

despicable Wretches who by turns cringe before ~~their~~ ^{their} ~~superior~~, and tyrannise over an inferior Order of Citizens - but if the King for the Misfortune of his Country is a Man of Abilities, they become the Instruments of his Tyranny, and share the spoils of those whom they have assisted in ruining -

How are Places of Honour and Trust given in such a Government - according to Merit? yes if a Man have the Merit - of a fair Sister and can be so object as to play the Pander to a great Man's Lust, he shall make a conspicuous figure in life - "Every generous principle is developed" - if you please, every infamous Germ that can disgrace Humanity is most luxuriantly developed - in your admired form of Government - what Room is there for generous Emulation when Men of Merit overlooked, see Fools who have nothing to recommend them but their having been subservient to the Vices of the Great, or at best Family Interest, advanced above their Heads - to your unfinished sentence I will add, the Hands of a King ought to be tied - that he may do no mischief but a better way would be to have no King at all -

As to the American Question it is now upon a very different Issue from that, on which you put it - but this matter is so well handled by Doctor Price, that I refer you to him intirely -

Our last Accounts from America, are that the Americans ~~are~~ ^{are} obliged upon Genl. Carleton's being reinforced, to raise the Siege of Quebec, leaving their cannon &c. that Commodore Hopkins, with two or three smaller Vessels than that in which he was, had attacked the Glasgow Man of War, taken two of her Tenders and a Bomb Ketch that were in

in Company with her - the Gazette does not mention this Circumstance, but giving an Account of the force of the Glasgow and the force of the American Vessels, makes it appear that there must have been great mismanagement or Cowardice in the Men of the latter to let the Glasgow escape - it is said in excuse for the Americans, that Hopkin's Rudder was carried away the first broad side, but it is seldom that we can hear a candid Account of such Transactions, each party being desirous of veiling what makes most against themselves, and setting in the strongest light what is in their favour -

Washington with the Continental Army, immediately upon the Evacuation of Boston, marched to N. York - then sailed to Halifax, where he lands his Men in Detachments, to take the Benefit of the Land - and holds himself in readiness to join the Reinforcement sent out by Government - the next Scene of Action will probably be N. York or its Neighborhood - unless the Succours sent to Arnold who has abandoned Quebec will tempt him to return to the Charge -

The Account of Quaker's being taken prisoner is false - The N. Carolinians have gained a complete Victory over the Regulators who had declared for Government in that Province - The Disturbances in the back Country of N. Carolina are quieted - but new ones are likely to break out - intercepted Letters discover that Ministerial emissaries have been active in stirring up the Indians, the Barbarians returned from their Hunt, carried home with them two white scalps, and celebrated the War ~~trump~~ Dances - The Harbour and Town are so well fortified as to bid defiance